



# CROSS CURRENTS



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## “frontlets between [their] eyes.”

By Pastor Chu

Belgian researchers have developed technology that, among other applications, will allow images and information such as road directions or text messages to be projected from our smart phones straight to the eye. This is not “science fiction,” the project’s chief researcher said.

Just think! In five years, we could be reading the Bible projected directly onto our contact lenses! Even if we don’t need corrective glasses, we can still wear these contact lenses to allow us to read the Bible anywhere without having to hold a Bible, a tablet, or mobile phone, and there’s an added bonus: the lens could have tunable colors that allow the wearer to give their irises different colors to suit their different moods. And confirmation students will be able to access the Catechism at a “blink of an eye!”

But... I’m guessing that a Bible-reading application would not be a top draw even for most Christian technophiles. If/when commercial applications for the lens become available in about five years as expected, I doubt people will

be camping out days in advance of the lens’ debut because they can’t wait to read the Bible via their contact lenses.

Still, such an application would give new meaning to Deuteronomy 6 where Moses, speaking on God’s behalf to the Israelites after God brought them out of slavery in Egypt, told God’s people to keep God’s Word as “frontlets between [their] eyes.”

Of course, we don’t need to wait for new technology before reading the Scriptures. We all have Bibles within easy reach in our homes. What we need is to heed, by the grace of God, God’s Word and have the Word of God in our hearts and on our minds, which happens only when we actually take the Scriptures in hand, whether it be a physical, bound copy of the Bible, an electronic copy on a tablet or smart phone, an audio CD, or — when it becomes available — “fully pixelated contact lens displays with the same detail as a television screen” that will flash Bible passages literally before our very eyes. The Holy

Spirit, working through the Word of God, will enable and move us to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, and might, to love His Word, and to teach our children to do the same.

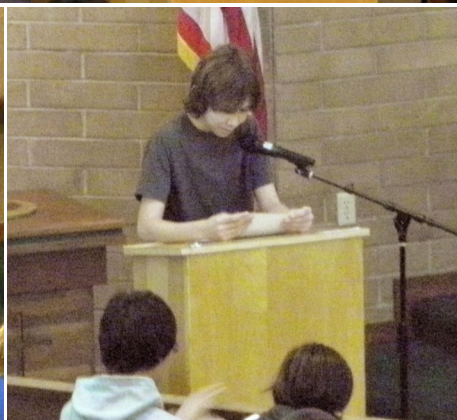
Whatever medium we prefer to use, the point is: Read the Word of God! Read it everyday. Hear it preached. Keep God’s Word front and center in your life. If you’re into making New Year’s resolutions, by the grace of God make as one of your resolutions God’s Word in Deuteronomy 6: *<sup>5</sup>You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. <sup>6</sup>And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. <sup>7</sup>You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. <sup>8</sup>You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. <sup>9</sup>You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.*

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## The Christmas Album



**Thank you** to everyone who supported the WoHC's Adopt-a-Family. We were able to get gifts for four different families with gift cards for groceries and shoes. A huge thank you to Thrivent for their support once again. All recipients should have had a wonderful Christmas, also to Cherylene Brueckner and Pam McGinnis for wrapping all the gifts.





## Christmas Caroling on December 16, 2012



At Sue Saalfeld's



At Cal &amp; Betty Kallsen's



At Muriel Strieter's

After Sunday school on December 16, Melarie and her sister Pam served homemade sausages, fresh baked bread and salads for the carolers.

This maybe the biggest group of carolers we had with a four cars caravan carrying Marv Kreitz, Cheryl and Gregg Syrovatka, Kaytlyn, Kamryn, Kayleigh Coyne, Carol, Kimberly and Chris Chu, Mike and Melarie Seidel, Idalene Stadler, Pam McGinnis, Violet Griffin, Lauretta Oliver, Joyce Leibe and Grace Gin. Our first stop was at Montecito-Oaknount, Senior Living for Cal and Betty, then to Sunrise for Sue and Kensington for Muriel. At all of these facilities the residents were very appreciative and many sang along with the group. Thank you Kaytlyn for accompanying the singers with her flute and Melarie and Pam for the wonderful lunch!



### January Birthdays

- 4 Wanda Schwartz
- 7 Eric Liebe  
Brittany Syrovatka  
Olson
- 14 Dennis Lau
- 15 Josh Coyne
- 16 Drew Oatis  
Christl Rose
- 22 Pat Kroeger
- 24 Wilma Burch  
Bill Riechmann
- 26 Grace Gin
- 27 Britney Liedtke
- 28 Marc Albano

### Anniversary

- 10 Peter & Liz Aduan



### Those who are in need our prayers:

**Sue Saalfeld, Muriel Strieter, Ellen Stenson** (Glenn Stenson's granddaughter), **Lloyce Logan** (Judy West sister-in-law), **Joy Parker** (Gayle Bothe's sister), **Wanda Schwartz, Dorothy Taylor** (Karen Gamble's mother), **Robert & David Grandt** (Liz Aduan's brothers), **Pauline Fudge** (Liz Aduan's Aunt-heart failure) **Inge Stone, Elizabeth Bothé** (Gayle Bothe's granddaughter-7yrs. Non-churched), **Abbi and Alex Roman, June Stewart** (Judy West's friend), **Jan Tammiste** (Roman's friend), **Alice Mikolasek** (Violet Griffin's friend), **Herb Borchers, Stephanie Woolley** (Lauretta Oliver's daughter-migraines), **Brian Fawcett** (Diane Oatis' brother), **Blessed Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Betty Kallsen, Marjorie Keisling** (Pat Kroeger's sister), **Nora Encinas** (secretary-First Lutheran) **Audrey Augilar** (Nora's niece-remove paralysis), **Pastor Phil Scharnitzke** (Our Savior Lutheran-Livermore), **Bonnie Holmer** (Gayle Bothe's aunt), **Pastor Paul and Cathy Meyer** (retired Pastor-Trinity Lutheran W.C.), **Maria Delit** (Susan Stenson's mother), **Bill Godsey, Eric Stanley** (Amber Reiter's friend-recovery heart surgery), **JoEllen Roesti** (pregnancy).

### Chaplains among the armed forces and those serving in the military:

**Jon and Mike Dawers** (Bill Koch's grandsons), **Matthew Seeger, Derek Patterson and Dustin Philips, Taylor Bothe-Yates** (Gayle Bothe's grand-niece), **Navy Spec. David Aiman, Joel and Jordan Bennett, Capt. Richard Hill** (Violet Griffin's great nephews), **Cadet Megan Gemar, Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl, P.O.W. and M.I.A.s.**



### Choir Schedule

Rehearsals at  
7:15PM

January 8,  
15, and 22



## Christmas lunch and Sing-A-Long ✦ December 19, 2012

by Marv Kteitz

As our seniors opened the door and entered the Social Hall they were greeted by five round tables festively decorated with holly berries evergreen sprigs and a scarf like cloth extending diagonally across each table all.

Erna Beutel's handiwork, a great job Erna! Our lunch which was catered was eloquently presented on two of our long tables. There were chafing pans holding Turkey Mashed Potatoes, Gravy a mound of Salad and of course Cranberries. Our dessert was Pumpkin Pie. The whole table was embellished with warming vessels under what needed to be kept warm. Marv gave the opening prayer and everyone lined up for the feast. We had an abundance of food and I think everyone took enough home for another meal. In addition, Melarie had baked enough bread so that we all had a loaf. We sang three songs and Jack gave a talk on the true meaning of the birth of Jesus! A synopsis of his presentation follows.

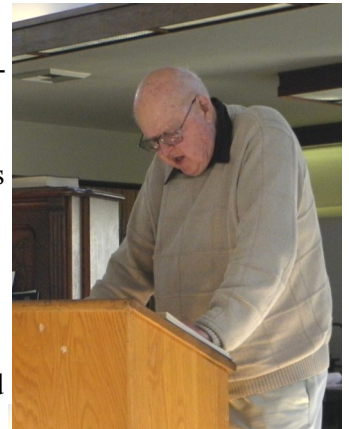
At Christmas time we celebrate the birth of Jesus amidst a lot of worldly hullabaloo that is only relevant to the season when we are expressing love to one another and love for God. (God is love) The event we celebrate is

monumental when we realize who Jesus is - True God and True Man.

In the Gospel of John we read "in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God though him all things were made; without him nothing was made. The word became flesh and dwelt among us. In the old testament prophets starting with Moses 1500 years before Christ's birth wrote "the Lord will raise up a prophet like me from among your brothers" Then

Isaiah in 700 BC wrote The Lord himself will give you a sign. The Virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel (God with us). We thank God for the birth of Christ and praise Him for His ministry to us all.

*"For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me but raise them up the last day. For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day"* (John 6:38-40)



## **Humphrey's on the Delta** Thursday Jan. 10th

We plan on two outing for January the first is on January 10<sup>th</sup> to Humphrey's on the Delta overlooking the San Joaquin River as well as a number of boats docked at a Marina. The view is spectacular and the food is excellent especially the Clam Chowder. I have reserved a room at the end of the dining room with water on two sides... We will order (off the menu) and have separate checks. It's not uncommon to see a large ship go by as well as a number of small boats. When I was there last I had the Deep Fried Prawns for \$12.00 which included soup or salad. I had 5 large prawns with French fries. I love their bread which is soaked in butter and goes great with Clam Chowder. You almost don't need coffee, soda or a different drink. I have placed the menu near the signup sheet in the Social Hall. The Restaurant is located at 1 Marina Plaza Antioch Ca, and lunch is at 1:00. We should meet at church at 12:00 and leave at 12:15. . This is a really nice outing and a good time to invite a friend.

## **Creekside Cafe Rossmoor** Thursday January 24 2012

The second outing is to the Creekside Cafe in the heart of Rossmoor. I went to dinner there with our Single group from SIR'S about three weeks ago and was pleasantly surprised. The New Creekside Cafe was eloquent all NEW not what we had when I used to play golf there. Erna Beutel, one of our Board Members confirmed how nice it is. I talked with the gal that handles reservation and she said they have several groups (Not living at Rossmoor) partake of lunch or dinner at the restaurant. I was there for dinner and the food was excellent Again we plan on eating at 1:00. Meet at church at 12:00 and leave at 12 15 I have posted a Menu near the signup sheet. The Creekside Cafe is located at 1010 Stanley Dollar Drive 94595 near the golf course. At the gate, tell them you are going to the restaurant, and they should let you in and tell you how to get there. The signup sheet is in the Social Hall If you plan on going. Please SIGN UP so we know how many to plan on.....

## **OUTREACH SUNDAY-HOMELESS SHELTER-Dec. 23rd**

by Carol Lau

The weather didn't co-operate at all, as we caravanned to the shelter on a dark, dreary morning. Thanks to all the awesome helpers, it made the serving go way better. The food was fresh salad, turkey casserole and plenty of donated goodies. We are always amazed at how many donations we receive, in love. There were dozens of people to greet us when we arrived-many more than usual, due to the weather. Many people gave thanks for a good, hot, home-cooked meal. We began by sharing the Lord's Prayer and then we passed out many Portals of Prayer. This is a very worthwhile cause and we appreciate all those hands to prepare, hearts to share the good news, and arms to load and unload. Please come out and share the fourth Sunday of each month in service to the Lord.

**OUTREACH NEEDS ALL TYPES OF Candies, SNACKS, & CHIPS IN INDIVIDUAL BAGS,** (Candy, if not wrapped please put in zip lock bags)

ALL JUICE & hot Chocolate, IN INDIVIDUAL BOXES OR BAGS,

ALL ARTICLES MAY BE LEFT ON THE OUT-REACH TABLE. THANK YOU!

## **Concord Galindo Home Museum** **Refurbished & Re-Opened**

At Last the Galindo Home Museum is open! Members of the Galindo family lived in the house since **it was built in 1854.**

Ruth Galindo passed away in 1999 & left the house to the city of Concord & all the items in the house. The Concord Historical Society immediately started refurbishing the house to bring it back to its former beauty.

An ADA lift was installed and the property was made *handicapped friendly*.

The house is opened to visitors starting on Jan. 6, 2013. Visitors' Hours:

**Sundays: 1-4p.m. & Wednesdays: 12-4p.m.**



## 2012 WOHC Non-Progressive Christmas Dinner

For the past several years the Women of Holy Cross have held their annual Christmas Dinner at DVC's Norseman Restaurant. Prior to that we had a number of progressive dinners at different homes, which is why we now use the name "Non-Progressive Christmas Dinner" for the last few years.

This year Rhonda Liedtke offered to host our annual Christmas Dinner at her home. It was so nice to come to a home, and just enjoy ourselves, which we soon learned was exactly what Rhonda wanted for us. There was wine and other beverages for us



to enjoy while we admired the warm, inviting home and beautiful decorations and fellowshiped with each other.

Rhonda and her two nieces, Britney and Kayla, served us a delicious dinner of salad, dinner rolls, ham, fresh carrots, potatoes and for dessert, oh my! - an elegantly displayed huge assortment of scrumptious desserts and coffee or tea.

After dinner, we were blessed with an appropriate devotion from President

Cherylne Brueckner, talking about the different shapes of Christmas cookies: stars, trees, candles, wreaths, and how they relate to scripture verses.

Then we had fun with our annual White Elephant game. The Rooster Slippers came back, (I was reminded of Cinderella's sisters trying on the glass slipper in hopes it would fit). Melarie and I were scratching our head about the fact that no pocket-size sewing machines came back! There was exercise equipment (once we figured out how to use it) and lots of neat items found new homes.

Our Photographer Grace Gin took some great pictures, some of which are attached here.

We want to express our thanks and appreciation to Rhonda for putting on a beautiful dinner for us and also to Michael, who emptied all the furniture out of the house into their garage so we could have plenty of room for our event! We ask God's blessings to both of them!

Marilyn Neumann, Publicity

*FYI: More photos are displayed in the Parish Hall.*



### New Contacts

Pastor Bob and Gerda Koch  
4850 Deer Valley Rd. #207  
Antioch, CA 94531  
925-756-5529

### The Reiter's

To contact Sue or the family by phone outside of office hours, please call 925-435-4552, or e-mail Sue at the office as they no longer have a house (land) line.

### CELL PHONE VERSUS BIBLE

Ever wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone?

What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?

What if we flipped through it several times a day?

What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it?

What if we used it to receive messages from the text?

What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?

What if we gave it to kids as gifts?

What if we used it when we traveled?

What if we used it in case of an emergency?

This is something to make you go ...hmm...where is my Bible?

Oh, and one more thing.

Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected because Jesus already paid the bill.

Makes you stop and think "where are my priorities?" And no dropped calls!

When Jesus died on the cross, he was thinking of you!



# January 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5 Christmas Tree Take- down
6 Mite Box /Hat Day <b>9:30am Worship / Communion</b> 11am Sunday School/Bible Study	7 12:30pm Wm Bi- ble Study(C) 6:30pm WoHC Board Mtg 7pm Boy Scout (H)	8 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	9 7pm Bible Study (H)	10 12p NFS Lunch Outing Carpool	11	12
13 <b>9:30am Worship</b> 11am Sunday School/Bible Study	14 12:30pm Wm Bi- ble Study(C) 1:30p Bridge (H) 6:30pm WoHC General Mtg: Bunco 7pm Boy Scout (L)	15 6:30p Elders 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	16 1pm Senior Brd (L) 7pm Bible Study (H)	17	18	19
20 <b>9:30am Worship / Communion</b> 10:30am Sunday School/Bible Study	21 12:30pm Wm Bi- ble Study(C) 6:30pm Church Council 7pm Boy Scout (L)	22 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	23 7pm Bible Study (H)	24 12p NFS Lunch Outing to Carpool	25	26
27 <b>9:30am Worship</b> 11am Sunday School/Bible Study 11:30am OUT- REACH	28 7pm Boy Scout (L)	29	30 7pm Bible Study (H)	31		

(cl= Choir Loft, C=Conference Room, E=Ed Bldg, H=Parish Hall, L=Library, W=Wing Room)



**Holy Cross Lutheran  
Church, LCMS**

1092 Alberta Way  
Concord, CA 94521



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**Pastor: Bill Chu**

President: Mike Liebe  
Vice President: Gregg Syrovatka  
Council Secretary: Carrie Kroeger  
Financial Secretary: Scott Stadler  
Treasurer: Cheryl Syrovatka  
Head Trustee: Allen Brueckner  
Elders: Bill Riechman, George Oatis, John Coyne,  
Eric Roman, Herb Neumann

Secretarial Staff: Sue Reiter  
Newsletter Editor: Grace Gin  
Photography: Grace Gin

**Worship Schedule:**

<b>Sunday Service</b>	<b>9:30AM</b>
Communion	1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays
Adults Bible Studies	11AM (Library & Conf. Rm)
Sunday School	11AM

**Week Day Bible Study Schedule:**

Monday (Ladies)	12:30PM	Conference Room
Wednesday (all)	7:00PM	Parish Hall

**Choir Rehearsal:**

Tuesday 7:15PM—8:45PM

**Outreach:**

Fourth Sunday of each month, 11:30AM

**Publication Deadline:**

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday  
February 2013 Cross Currents: **January 22**

**Office Hours:** M-F 9 AM-12:30 PM